Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An implant package for a cochlear implant, said implant package including stimulator electronics contained within a protective housing and being operably coupled to an electrode array adapted for insertion into a cochlea of a patient, and being in electrical communication with a receiving and/or transmitting coil enclosed within a protective casing, said protective housing being dimensioned and shaped to be capable of location within a mastoid cavity of said patient, said electrical communication being contained in a flexible connection between said protective housing and said protective casing.

2. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein said flexible connection facilitates optimal positioning of said receiving and/or transmitting coil, depending on anatomy and age of said patient.

3. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein said flexible connection between said protective housing and said protective casing is such as to allow changes in head shape as said patient grows.

4. (Previously Presented) An implant package for a cochlear implant, said implant package including stimulator electronics contained within a protective housing and being operably coupled to an electrode array adapted for insertion into a cochlea of a patient, and being further operably coupled to a receiving and/or transmitting coil enclosed within a protective casing, said protective housing being dimensioned and shaped to be capable of location within a mastoid cavity of said patient nearer to an entry point of said electrode array into said cochlea than said protective casing, said further coupling being contained in a flexible connection between said protective housing and said protective casing, wherein said flexible connection facilitates optimal positioning of said coil, depending on the

anatomy and age of said patient, wherein said flexible connection between said protective housing and said protective casing is such as to allow changes in head shape as said patient grows, and wherein said flexible connection is made from a material having memory so that said further coupling retains its shape after installation into said mastoid cavity.

5. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein the implant package is electrically coupled to the electrode array.

6. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein the implant package is electrically coupled to the receiving and/or transmitting coil.

7. (Original) The implant package of claim 6, wherein the flexible connection includes one or more flexible arms containing leads which electrically connect the implant electronics to the receiving and/or transmitting coil.

8. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein the implant package is a receiver-stimulator package for a cochlear implant.

9. (Previously Presented) The implant package of claim 1, wherein said flexible connection is made from a material having memory so that the coupling retains its shape after installation into the mastoid cavity.

10 – 15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The implant package of claim 15~~An implant package for a hearing implant, said implant package comprising:

       a protective housing containing stimulator electronics;

       at least one electrode adapted for insertion into an inner ear and in operable communication with said stimulator electronics;

       a receiving and/or transmitting coil enclosed in a protective casing wherein said receiving and/or transmitting coil is electrically coupled to said protective housing; and

       a flexible connection between and directly attached to said protective housing and said protective casing, wherein ~~the~~ said flexible connection includes one or more flexible

arms containing leads which electrically connect the implant electronics to the receiving and/or transmitting coil.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)